



# Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1258

**DATE:** July 8, 2013

**TO:** All Iowa Medicaid Providers

**ISSUED BY:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** IowaCare Program is Ending, Enrollment Cap on July 1, 2013

**EFFECTIVE:** December 31, 2013

IowaCare is a federally-authorized waiver program that provides limited medical care for low-income adults ages 19-64 who would not otherwise qualify for Medicaid. The IowaCare network is currently supported by designated Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) across the state, Broadlawns Medical Center, and the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC).

**The IowaCare program will end effective December 31, 2013.** On June 20, 2013, Senate File 446 was signed by the Governor and established a new program, the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan which begins on January 1, 2014. The plan provides healthcare coverage designed to drive patient outcomes and quality care for low-income individuals not covered under traditional Medicaid. More information on that coverage will be communicated as related policy details are determined.

In order to phase out the IowaCare program, any new applications for IowaCare coverage will no longer be approved beginning on July 1, 2013, meaning enrollment into the program is now capped. Members currently enrolled in the program will continue to be eligible for services until the program ends unless they are dis-enrolled for another reason (e.g. moving out of state or not paying the premium). Applications filed prior to July 1, 2013, will be processed as usual.

The IME will educate IowaCare members throughout the fall to help them understand and transition smoothly through these changes. Until it ends, there will be no changes to the services offered to IowaCare members and the program will remain as it is now. Member questions can be directed to IME Member Services at 1-800-338-8366 (or 256-4606 in the Des Moines area).

The IME appreciates your continued partnership as we work together to serve the needs of Iowa Medicaid members. If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 (or 256-4609 in the Des Moines area) or by email at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).